The People's Korea

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35th World Table Tennis Championships Held In Pyongyang

The 35th World Table Tennis Championships opened on Apr. 25 in Pyongyang, the capital of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

A grand opening ceremony was held at the Pyongyang Gymnasium, according to a KCNA report.

Put up in the gymnasium were the letters "35th World Table Tennis Championships." Trophy cups for different events were placed there.

The gymnasium was packed with a large number of working people, youths and students in the capital, as well as foreign guests who came from different countries and regions of the world to participate in the 35th World Table Tennis Championships and reporters.

Also present at the opening ceremony were members of various delegations of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) and members of the home-visiting group of compatriots in the Americas staying in the socialist homeland.

Diplomatic envoys and staff members of foreign embassies in Pyongyang were also present at the ceremony.

The platform was taken by Pak Sung Chul, Vice-Premier Chong Jun Gi, and Kim Yu Sun, Kang Jung Han and other personages concerned as well as H. Roy Evans, President of the International Table Tennis Federation, Kido Hisao, Deputy President of the ITTF, Jean Mercier, Honorary Treasurer of the ITTF, and vice-presidents of the ITTF, the secretary-general of the ITTF, members of the Council of the ITTF, presidents of regional table tennis federations, heads of table tennis teams and delegates of various countries.

With sportsmen carrying the national flag of the DPRK, the flag of the ITTF and five-colored buntings, and a group of women dancing a welcome dance, encircling decorations symbolizing the 35th World Table Tennis Championships in the van, the table tennis teams and delegates of Ghana, Guyana, Cuba, Cyprus, Colombia, Guatemala, Nigeria, Norway, New Zealand, Nepal, Denmark, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Togo, Tunisia, Romania, Luxemburg, Libya, Lebanon, Morocco, Malaysia, Malta, Macao, the United States, Mexico, Bulgaria, Poland, Benin, Belgium, Brazil, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Senegal, Switzerland, Sweden, Scotland, Singapore, the Soviet Union, Ireland, England, Australia, Austria, the Jordan, Yugoslavia, Iraq, Italy, India, Indonesia, Japan, Egypt, Spain, Ethiopia, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the Yemen Arab Republic, Wales, Hungary, China, Czechoslovakia, Chile, Canada, Kuwait, Kenya, Thailand, Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago, Pakistan, Palestine, France, Finland, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Netherlands and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea entered the gymnasium.

A function took place for handing over the "Egyptian Cup" symbolic of friendship among the world peace-loving people and sportsmen and peace.

In accordance with the practice of the world table tennis championships, an Egyptian delegate took over the cup from a delegate of England, the host country of the last championships, and handed it over to Kang Jung Han, Chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative Committee.

Kang Jung Han said in his speech that the citizens of Pyongyang deemed it great joy to take over the cup. We sincerely hope that the championships will score success to live up to the unanimous expectation of the world peaceloving people and sports lovers, he said.

Kim Duk Jun, Chairman of the Organising Committee of the 35th World Table Tennis Championships, made a welcome speech.

First of all, he, in the name of the Organizing Committee of the 35th World Table Tennis Championships and the Korean sportsmen, most warmly welcomed the foreign players and guests participating in the championships. He expressed the belief that the championships would help develop the world sports movement in conformity with the rules and purpose of the ITTF and the common desire of the world peaceloving people and deepen friendship and amity among peoples.

H. Roy Evans, President of the International Table Tennis Federation, made a speech on behalf of the ITTF.

He said:

We are gathered here as guests of the Table Tennis Association of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, but more importantly as guests of the whole people, in the streets, in the factories and fields, in the schools and in their homes, on whose behalf their respected and beloved leader President Kim Il Sung gives us welcome.

We have noted with approval all the organizing work undertaken with such enthusiasm and dedication at all levels and we are confident it will all add up to a highly successful 35th world championships.

Pak Sung Chul, Vice-President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, made an opening address.

It gives us great pleasure to hold the 35th World Table Tennis Championships in Pyongyang, he said, and stated: Authorized by the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, I warmly welcome and greet teams and delegates from various countries of the world and foreign guests participating in the championships.

The 35th World Table Tennis Championships will be a significant championships holding a shining place in the history of the world table tennis and a championships of peace and friendship and amity among peoples.

He stressed:

The decision of the ITTF to hold world table tennis championships in our country is an expression of particular trust in our country and our people.

After the ITTF decided to hold the 35th World Table Tennis Championships in our country President Kim Il Sung made sure wih deep care that the championships might be successfully held in conformity with the might and features of our prospering country as a new-emerging socialist independent and sovereign state and on a level required by the championships of a world scale. As a result we could arrange today's wonderful championships.

He expressed the belief that the championships would score best success to live up to the unanimous expectation of the peaceloving people and sports lovers of the world thanks to the active participation and cooperation of foreign players and delegates and declared the 35th World Table Tennis Championships open.

The attendants watched the sports dance "Pyongyang table tennis championships of friendship" performed by Pyongyang school children and youth in welcome of the opening of the championships.

Photo shows the opening ceremony of the 35th World Table Tennis Championships held on Apr. 25 at Pyongyang Gymnasium with the participation of delegations from 75 countries and regions. (KCNA Radiophoto)

The DPRK delegation marching in the opening ceremony (KCNA Radiophoto)

DPRK Woman Paddlers Stand 2nd in Team Event

Following is the final standing of men's and women's team events of the 35th World Table Tennis Championships held from Apr. 26 to 30.

SWAYTHLING CUP (MEN)
1. Hungary
2. China
3. Japan
4. Czechoslovakia
5. France
6. DPRK
7. U.S.S.R.
8. Sweden
9. Yugoslavia
10. England

CORBILLON CUP (WOMEN)
1. China
2. DPRK
3. Japan
4. U.S.S.R.
5. Hungary
6. Sweden
7. Czechoslovakia
8. Yugoslavia
9. West Germany
10. Romania

Girl table tennis players of the DPRK carried off silver medals at the team event of Marcel Corbillon Cup at the 35th World Table Tennis Championships.

The DPRK girls demonstrated development of the table tennis of the country in the women's team event at the current championships.

In the first-stage team series, the DPRK girl players beat their rivals of Yugoslavia 3:0, Bulgaria 3:0, the U.S. 3:1, England 3:0, U.S.S.R. 3:0 and FRG 3:0.

In the Second-stage matches they defeated Japanese team 3:2.

In all these matches the DPRK girl players firmly took the initiative.

Particulary, seesawing was the match with the Japanese squad in the 2nd stage team event.

In the 2nd game of the team event the DPRK sportswoman Pak Yong Sun won uneasy victory of 21:15, 21:14 from the Japanese seed.

In the last decisive game she gain beat her opponent 21:17, 21:18 to bring victory to her team.

ITTF Supports Unified Team

The general meeting of the International Table Tennis Federation was held in Pyongyang on April 28, KCNA reported.

Present at the general meeting were H. Roy Evans, President, Kido Hisao, Deputy President, and Jean Mercier, Honorary Treasurer, of the ITTF, and its vice-presidents and council members and delegates of various countries who are attending the 35th World Table Tennis Championships.

Kim Yu Sun, Chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Guidance Committee, made a congratulatory speech at the general meeting.

H. Roy Evans also spoke on the occasion.

The questions put on the agenda were discussed at the general meeting.

The ITTF rejected the proposal of 19 countries including West Germany that every host state of Championships should guarantee entry of all the participating countries in the future.

Earlier on the Council of the International Table Tennis Federation made public the following statement in Pyongyang.

Israel team cannot participate in the 35th World Table Tennis Championships to be held in Pyongyang as the responsible authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea consider that Israeli participation may constitute obstacles in keeping security. The Table Tennis Association of the D.P.R. of Korea is still making its efforts to reach agreement of participation with north-south unified national team, and the ITTF Council considers this to be within the fulfilment of the promise made by the D.P.R.K. association to abide by the ITTF regulations. The Table Tennis Association of the Republic of Korea will be so informed.

KPA Gen. Hits "Wall" along MDL, Urges GI Pullout from S. Korea

(See the full text on page 2)

The south Korean authorities are building even an reinforced concrete wall on an unprecedentedly large scale along the whole length of the Military Demarcation Line.

This is a scheme to permanently partition Korea into two by completely cutting off the blood vein of the nation and dividing the territory into two, denounced General So Chol of the Korean People's Army.

He also demanded that the United States must dissolve the "U.N. Command," immediately and totally withdraw its troops from south Korea and take hands off Korea.

These remarks were made on Apr. 24 in his report at the central report meeting celebrating the 47th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army, according to a KCNA report.

Referring to Pyongyang's Jan. 23 four-point proposal, Gen. So Chol said in his report:

What we really want is a genuine dialogue for reunification, not a dialogue for empty talk with a dagger under the cloak.

Touching upon "concrete wall" under construction along the MDL by the south Korean authorities, he said:

The south Korean authorities, going against the unanimous desire of the whole nation and the demand of the times for reunification, are building even an reinforced concrete wall on an unprecedentedly large scale along the whole length of the Military Demarcation Line.

This is a scheme to permanently partition Korea into two by common vein of the nation and dividing the territory into two and a treacherous act never to be condoned down through generations.

He continued:

The south Korean side should not mistake our national tolerance.

Our people and People's Army want peace and fight for peaceful reunification, but they do not beg for peace even in face of a threat from the harassers of peace.

Our people who always value the sovereignty of the nation do not threaten or encroach upon others but never allow others to threaten or encroach upon us.

Saying that future developments in our country depend entirely on the attitude of the U.S. and the south Korean authorities, he warned:

The south Korean authorities must not grind an ax behind the smokescreen of the dialogue but discontinue the act of rejecting the dialogue and immediately return to the north-south dialogue for the peaceful reunification of the country in conformity with the unanimous desire of the whole nation and the common aspiration of the world people.

Mentioning the presence of foreign troops in south Korea, he urged:

The United States must dissolve the "U.N. Command," immediately and totally withdraw its troops from south Korea and take hands off Korea in accordance with the resolution of the U.N. General Assembly and its own "pledges."

U.S. Korean Rejoins Mother after 29-Year Separation

South Korean resident in the U.S. Ko Yong Il, interpreter for the U.S. table tennis team, met on Apr. 28 his mother and sister in Pyongyang after 29-year separation.

PYONGYANG, April 29 (KCNA)—Ko Yong Il, a Korean resident in the United States, who came to his dear socialist homeland with the 35th World Table Tennis Championships as an occasion met his family and relatives on Apr. 28 in Pyongyang.

When he was ten years old, Ko Yong Il went to south Korea, following his father, taken in by deceptive propaganda during the temporary retreat in the past Fatherland Liberation War.

In south Korean society where "the rich getting richer and the poor poorer," he suffered from the hardships of living and went to the United States as an "emigrant."

He came to the dear homeland nearly 30 years after he left his beloved native place in his early age to wander about under foreign skies and had an emotion-charged meeting with his family including mother, Li Jong Ho, and his sisters and relatives. The scene was moving, indeed.

They hugged each other, saying in a choked voice, "It's you my son, Yong Il!" "I am your sister."

Years have passed by with the country remaining divided. The son who left his home in his boyhood has reached his forties and the mother her seventies, her hair turning grey. All these years the mother had waited for the day when she would meet her son.

"Having seen my son from whom I had heard nothing, I feel as if I were in a dream," mother Li Jong Ho said, and went on:

"Where have you been wandering about, deserting our Korea, and why have you come now to meet your mother? Your father and you, my eldest son, deserted me. But the great leader has established a good system and looked after us so that we may be evenly well off. So I am living with no worry.

"Though your father left us, your brother and sisters are all working for the country, having graduated from colleges.

"We have no worry. If there is one, it's about you. No matter where you may live, you must not forget that you are a Korean. You must know how to do good things for our nation."

Hearing the affectionate words of his mother, Ko Yong Il said:

"I had never imagined that I would meet mother and sisters in the homeland. The tragedy was caused by the division of the country."

Noting that there are many people like him in the United States, he said that they would also be able to meet their parents, husbands and wives and children and live a happy life only when this tragedy is brought to an end at an early date.

Ko Yong Il's elder sister Ko Ryo Hyang who is a medical worker in Pyongyang said to her brother:

"Though you and father went to the United States, I believe that you will not discard national conscience." She continued:

"You are living in the United States. As for the Americans and the United States, if they do good for us, we will return good and if they do evil for us, we will return it.

"The United States has been occupying one half of our country for more than 30 years, bringing us the great damages of war and obstructing the reunification of the country. If the United States stops even now obstructing the reunification of our country and treats us friendly, we will be friendly to it. My brother, you must know this clearly." Choe Jong Gyun, brother-in-law of Ko Yong Il, who is a chairholder at a university in Pyongyang, said that we should not merely meet each other but make all our efforts to force the U.S. troops to withdraw from south Korea and reunify the divided country.

Noting that he had never imagined that such meeing would be arranged by the authorities of the Republic, Ko Yong Il said that he could not find proper words to express thanks for having arranged this meeting.

Ko Yong Il went to his family's house, together with his family and relatives.

Ko Yong Il having a happy time with his mother and sister (KCNA Radiophoto)

On Occasion of 47th Armed Forces Day

US, Hands Off Korea: Gen. So Chol

PYONGYANG, Apr. 25 (KCNA)—Comrade General So Chol, Director of the General Political Department of the Korean People's Army, made the report at the Central Report Meeting Celebrating the 47th Anniversary of the Founding of the Heroic Korean People's Army which was held at the February 8 House of Culture here on April 24.

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Founding of First Juche-Type Rev. Army

Recalling that the Korean people lost the country at the hands of the Japanese imperialists and had to undergo colonial slavery in the past due to the absence of genuine revolutionary armed forces capable of firmly defending the fatherland and the nation, General So Chol said:

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung gave a deep analysis of the serious lessons of the preceding national liberation movement in our country and the lawful demand of the revolutionary struggle and, on this basis, elucidated the precious truth of revolution that the colonial peoples can achieve national liberation and class liberation only by defeating the counter-revolutionary violence of imperialism with their own revolutionary armed forces in reliance upon their own strength, and clearly indicated the line of the great anti-Japanese armed struggle and all the strategic and tactical principles for its implementation.

After reviewing the energetic activities carried out by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung to carry into practice the policy of building revolutionary armed forces, he said:

On the basis of thorough preparations made in this course, the great leader proclaimed to the whole world the founding of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army (KPRA), the first revolutionary armed force of Juche type in our country, on April 25, 1932.

The reporter continued:

With the founding of the KPRA, the anti-Japanese national liberation struggle and the communist movement in our country began to develop more forcefully, with the armed struggle as its main stream, and a new phase opened in the struggle for implementing the policy of founding a revolutionary party and the line of anti-Japanese national united front.

After founding the first revolutionary army of Juche type of the Korean people, the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung put his heart and soul into steadily strengthening and developing the KPRA to suit the lawful demand of the development of the revolution and the revolutionary war.

For his outstanding and tested leadership, the KPRA could successfully drive back the attacks of the enemy tens of times, hundreds of times stronger and heroically defend the guerrilla bases for four to five years in the first period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle and win a shining victory in each battle in the whole course of the armed struggle by waging with superb tactics the raiding and ambushing battles, attacks on cities and counter encirclement battles, encounters and defensive battles, etc.

In the whole period of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, the KPRA remained boundlessly faithful to proletarian internationalism.

The Korean communists waged a joint struggle against the Japanese imperialist aggressors, shoulder to shoulder with fine sons and daughters of the Chinese people and, in this course, established the tradition of militant friendship and blood ties between the Korean and Chinese peoples.

The KPRA also fought in unity with the Soviet people and fought in defence of the Soviet Union, the first socialist state in the world, holding the slogan "Let us defend the Soviet Union with arms!"

By leading the arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle extending for over 20 years to a shining victory, the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung accomplished at last the historic cause of national liberation and opened an era of a new turn in the national liberation struggle in colonies.

The historic victory in the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle was a brilliant victory of the Juche idea, the revolutionary idea of the respected and beloved leader, and a powerful demonstration of the unbreakable spirit and great strength of the Korean people under the wise leadership of the great leader.

The great leader advanced the policy of building revolutionary regular armed forces suited to the new historic conditions after the country was liberated and the people became the master of the country and power; though everything fell short of the need and numerous obstacles lay ahead after liberation, he energetically led the work for founding regular armed forces of our people at its head, actively cutting the way through manifold difficulties with his iron will and outstanding leadership and, on the basis of these sufficient preparations, brilliantly accomplished the historic cause of reorganising the Korean People's Revolutionary Army into the Korean People's Army in February 1948.

With the strengthening and development of the KPRA into the Korean People's Army, the regular armed forces, our people came into possession of a dependable military guarantee for carrying our revolutionary cause to accomplishment, while reliably defending their fatherland and revolutionary gains from the encroachment by imperialism and all shades of class enemies, and became able to victoriously hew the path of the building of a prosperous independent and sovereign socialist state.

Victory in Fatherland Liberation War

The U.S. imperialists occupied south Korea after liberation and feverishly hastened war preparations against the northern half of the Republic with the wild desire to reduce Korea to their permanent colony. They provoked at last a brigandish war of aggression against our people on June 25, 1950.

In this war, our People's Army and people had to confront full in the face the imperialist allied forces possessed of a huge military strength more than two million strong headed by the U.S. imperialists equipped with modern military technique.

The great leader roused the whole party, whole army and the entire people in the Fatherland Liberation War under the slogan "Every Effort for Victory in the War!" and powerfully led our people and People's Army to victory in the war with his outstanding military strategy and tested leadership, wisely seeing through the prevailing military and political situation, the balance of forces between the enemy and us, and the enemy's scheme and vulnerable points in each stage of the war.

In the whole period of the war, the officers and men of the three services of the People's Army displayed to the full unexampled courage and mass heroism and defended every inch of the soil of the fatherland with their blood, upholding the orders of the respected and beloved Comrade Supreme Commander.

In the hard time of the Fatherland Liberation War the peoples of the socialist countries and many other countries of the world actively supported and encouraged our people and, especially, the Chinese people sent volunteers to help our people at the cost of blood. Our people always remember this and feel grateful.

Under the outstanding and tested leadership of the respected and beloved leader, our people and officers and men of the People's Army courageously weathered through the grim trials of the war and won a great victory in the Fatherland Liberation War by defeating at last U.S. imperialism which had a history of aggressive wars spanning over 100 years and claimed to have known no defeat in war.

The historic victory of our people in the Fatherland Liberation War was a great victory of the military idea of self-reliance in defence and Juche-based policy of armed force construction, and unique strategy and tactics founded by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and a shining victory of oustanding leadership art of him who advances the revolutionary struggle along an ever-victorious road with his rare wisdom.

That was also an eloquent demonstration of the unbreakable political and ideological unity and revolutionary cohesion of our people and People's Army closely rallied as one man around the great leader and a living example which showed by practice that the strength of a people who rose up in a cause of justice, tightly holding power in his hand, is invincible.

The historic victory won by our people in the Fatherland Liberation War under the wise leadership of the great leader started U.S. imperialism, the chieftain of imperialism on the downhill and developed the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle to a new, higher stage on the world-wide scale.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, having led the Fatherland Liberation War to victory, wisely guided the work for strengthening the people's army into each-a-match-for-a-hundred revolutionary armed forces and further consolidating the defences of the country in the period of the struggle for socialist revolution and socialist construction after the war.

By following the wise leadership of the great leader, our People's Army has grown into an each-a-match-for-a-hundred cadre army further prepared politically and ideologically and equipped with modern military technique while firmly guaranteeing militarily the struggle of our people for socialist revolution and socialist construction after the war and there has been solidly established in the whole country an all-people defence system with the People's Army as its core.

The Korean People's Army is, indeed, the revolutionary armed forces of our party and the glorious army of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the first ranks of which were organized by the respected and beloved leader in the flames of the early anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and which have been strengthened and developed by him into mighty modern regular armed forces today.

All the proud victories and exploits achieved by our people and People's Army for the fatherland and revolution through the raging storms of revolution are entirely the precious fruition of the outstanding and tested leadership of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, the founder and great guide of our revolutionary armed forces.

By founding the military idea of self-reliance in defence based on the great Juche idea, he developed anew and enriched the revolutionary military theory of the working class and brightly lit the victorious road of the noble liberation struggle of the masses of the working people for defending independence.

The great leader's military idea of self-reliance in defence and his profound military strategic theories on the revolutionary war and modern war are an undying torch brightly lighting a true road to the exploited and oppressed popular masses for destroying the imperialist colonial system and winning national liberation and class liberation by their own efforts and a militant banner powerfully inspiring the people in the anti-imperialist struggle.

The glorious history covered by the Korean People's Army over the last half a century is a shining embodiment of the military idea of self-reliance in defence and the policy of the building of revolutionary armed forces advanced by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and the course of their proud victory.

30 Years of Korean Division

General So Chol continued:

Our nation has been undergoing the tragedy of division already for more than 30 years owing to the occupation of south Korea by the U.S. troops and the national misfortunes and sufferings of our compatriots are growing as time flows.

He quoted the teaching of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung:

"The basic policy consistently followed by our party in the struggle for national reunification is to attain the goal independently by the Korean people themselves, free from any outside interference, and by peaceful means on the democratic principle."

Following this basic policy laid down by the great leader, our party and the government of our Republic have put forward a good many proposals for national reunification, most fair and reasonable, reflecting the demand of the developing situation of our country and the will of our nation and have made all efforts for their realisation.

Out of the sincere desire to promote the cause of the country's reunification on January 23 we advanced four-point proposals the keynote of which is for the north and the south to return to the original idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement, immediately stop slanders and calumnies against the other side, unconditionally and immediately discontinue all the military actions antagonizing and threatening the opposing side and convene an all-nation congress composed of representatives of the political parties and public organisations in the north and the south, and have taken one practical step after another for carrying them into practice. But, despite our repeated active initiatives and sincere efforts, no progress has yet been made in the dialogue for reunification.

What is important in advancing contact and dialogue and promoting the cause of reunification is, above all, to have a correct stand and stance towards the dialogue and negotiation.

What we really want is a genuine dialogue for reunification, not a dialogue for empty talk with a dagger under the cloak.

Though the south side turned up at the conference room, forced by the trend of the times, it created an artificial obstacle, taking an insincere attitude from the beginning toward the north-south contact and dialogue under this or that unreasonable pretext, and brought to a state of rupture the contact between the liaison representatives arranged with so much efforts.

When we took on our own initiative the step of discontinuing accusations against the opposing side with a view to creating an atmosphere favourable to the dialogue, the south side stirred up the consciousness of confrontation and hostility against us by intensifying anti-communist propaganda and answered with an unprecedentedly large military exercise our proposal calling for the unconditional stoppage of all military actions threatening the opposing side.

The south Korean authorities, going against the unanimous desire of the whole nation and the demand of the times for reunification, are building even an reinforced concrete wall on an unprecedentedly large scale along the whole length of the military demarcation line.

This is a scheme to permanently partition Korea into two by completely cutting off the blood vein of the nation and dividing the territory into two and a treacherous act never to be condoned down through generations.

Now our people and the men and officers of the People's Army cannot repress surging indignation at the treacherous act of the south Korean authorities who have ushered U.S. troops and foreign monopoly capital into the country, forcibly enlisted a large number of young and middle aged people into the puppet army to deploy them along the military demarcation line, incite national confrontation and, not content with this, build a reinforced concrete wall across the country.

The south Korean side should not mistake our national tolerance. They should clearly understand that it was not because we did not know how to expose and denounce them or because we had nothing to say that we have shown patient tolerance as to their reckless acts for three months.

We have tolerated and tolerate everything solely for the sake of the dialogue and reunification.

But there is a limit to our patience.

Our people and People's Army want peace and fight for peaceful reunification, but they do not beg for peace even in face of a threat from the harassers of peace.

Our people who always value the sovereignty of the nation do not threaten or encroach upon others but never allow others to threaten or encroach upon us.

Future developments in our country depend entirely on the attitude of the United States and the south Korean authorities.

The south Korean authorities must not grind an ax behind the smoke-screen of the dialogue but discontinue the act of rejecting the dialogue and immediately return to the north-south dialogue for the peaceful reunification of the country in conformity with the unanimous desire of the whole nation and the common aspiration of the world people.

We consider that we, deeply aware of the noble mission we assume before the nation and history, should have a progressive dialogue bringing unity and reunification and solemnly declare once again that a practical measure for discontinuing all military acts antagonizing the opposing side should be taken.

US, Be Out of Korea

The interference of outside forces must be strictly ruled out, above all, if the independent and peaceful reunification of our country is to be achieved, the reporter stressed.

He further said:

The United States must dissolve the "UN Command," immediately and totally withdraw its troops from south Korea and take hands off Korea in accordance with the resolution of the UN General Assembly and its own "pledges."

He went on to say:

Now all the progressive people, international organisations and democratic organisations of the five continents of the world are resolutely supporting the struggle of our people for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and sharply denouncing the military exercises and splittist acts of the United States and the south Korean authorities.

This is a great encouragement to the struggle of our people.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I express deep thanks to the people of the socialist countries, the non-aligned countries and the Third World countries and all the peace-loving people the world over who always extend active support and encouragement to our people's cause of national reunification, and firmly believe that they will continue to express firm solidarity for our cause of justice in the future.

No one can bar the struggle of our people for reunifying the country and rejoining the severed blood vein of the nation.

Upholding the policy of national reunification set forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, our people wil smash the "two Koreas" plot of the splittists within and without and certainly accomplish the historic cause of national reunification with the united force of the whole nation, declared General So Chol.

(Subtitles are ours...Ed.)

Need for Independent National Economy (1)

A series of articles entitled "Need for Independent National Economy" is designed to help our readers better and more comprehensively understand what we term an "independent national economy", which is one of the secrets of the marvellous successes being achieved in the DPRK. The series is divided into five parts. The first part is a kind of preface to the series. The second part deals with the importance of building an independent national economy and its major contents. The third part explains its inevitability. The fourth part covers the methods of building an independent national economy. The last part discusses its correctness.

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It is 34 years since Korea was liberated from Japanese colonial rule. In this process, Korea which had taken over a colonial economy, rose up from the ruins of the Korean war and built an independent national economy, repulsing the interference and oppression by big powers. The DPRK has turned into a highly industrialized state with a powerful economic foundation. It is now developing each day according to a new economic plan.

During the 30-odd years since the liberation, the world situation has also changed remarkably. A great number of countries won independence and the Third World countries which uphold the slogans of "anti-imperialism","independence" exceeded 100, holding two thirds of the seats of the United Nations. The Third World countries face the problems of hunger and poverty of their peoples and of strengthening their political power.

Although Third World countries are mainly agricultural countries, they face serious food problem. The "World Conference on Food", which was held in Rome, November, 1974, under the sponsorship of the United Nations attended by delegations from 130 countries, declared that people in 20-30% of the regions of Asia and Africa were considered "under-nourished", and sixty-one countries of these regions suffer from food shortages.

These facts imply that the problem of promoting economic construction and of stabilizing a national economy as well as the problem of winning political independence are very difficult and vital to Third World countries.

The DPRK, one of the Third World countries, has attracted great public attention in the world because of her successful economic construction.

In the days of Japanese colonial rule, Korea had only a few fertilizer factories designed to produce gunpowder, and iron and steel mills aimed at extracting iron contents from ores and sending them to steel mills in Japan. The Japanese imperialists destroyed even these factories when they returned to Japan as the war neared its end. Factories reconstructed after the liberation were destroyed during the Korean war.

However, at present, the DPRK can build on her own plants needed for heavy and light industries, export them to foreign countries. The gross industrial output in 1976 increased 178 times over 1946. The annual growth rate of industrial output was 41.7 percent during the 3-Year Plan period(1954-1956), 36.6 percent during the 5-Year Plan period(1957-1961), 19.1 percent during the first Seven-Year Plan period (1961-1967), 16.3 percent during the Six-Year Plan period(1971-1976), and it is estimated to reach 12.1 percent during the Second Seven-Year Plan period (1978-1984).

The output of each industrial sector has steadily increased. Power production in 1976 increased 5.5 times (28.0 billion kwh) over 1956, coal 13 times (50.0 million tons), crude steel 21 times (4.0 million tons), chemical fertilizer 16.3 times (3.0 million tons), cement 13.3 times (8.0 million tons).

If the Second Seven-Year Plan to double the output of major industrial products is successfully carried out, the production of major industrial goods per capita will be 500 kg for steel, 5,000 kg for coal, 3,750 kw for electricity, 812.5 kg for cement, 312.5 kg for chemical fertilizer. (calculated on the assumption that the population is 16.0 million.)

Korean grain, represented by rice and corn, is drawing the world's attention. With regard to grain, the DPRK has attained full self-sufficiency since 1960 and has become a grain-exporting country. Agricultural production has made rapid progress, through land reforms carried out soon after the liberation, through the completion of the co-operatization of agriculture, introduction of irrigation systems, electrification, mechanization and chemicalization of agriculture.

The annual growth rate of agriculture during 1963-1974 was 9.1 percent. This figure is pretty high as compared with foreign countries. For instance, the annual growth rate of agriculture during the period of 1961-1975 was 1.3 percent in the United States, 2.3 percent in west European countries, 3.5 percent in the USSR and east European countries, 2.6 percent in Latin-American countries.

Although many countries have suffered serious damage in agricultural production owing to world-wide abnormal weather, the growth rate of agriculture in the DPRK increased 36 percent in 1973, 31 percent in 1974, and 10 percent in 1975.

The country's grain output in recent years has been steadily on the rise. It reached 7.0 million tons in 1974, and recorded 7.7 million tons in 1975, 8.0 million tons in 1976, and 8.5 million tons in 1977. As the domestic demand for grain is 4.8 million tons, the remainder can be reserved or exported.

Along with the rapid development of heavy industry and agriculture, light industry registered a big succ ess. During the Six-Year Plan period (1971-1976), the production capacity of textile goods reached 600 million metres, the production of knit wear, sweaters and jackets increased 6 times underwear production 1.6 times and hosiery production 1.8 times. Food industry has also been consolidated. Large-scale refrigeration factories each with a capacity of 120,000 tons were constructed in the DPRK. There are freezing factories in more than 200 cities. Thus the DPRK came to form a freezing network linking producing areas with consuming areas. Processing factories were constructed in all provinces.

On the basis of these economic sucesses, the DPRK made remarkable progress in the area of education, culture and art.

The living standard of the people is getting higher and there are great promises in store for them in the future.

In the past, Korea was unable to make even a part in a machine because of its colonial economy, but she has been turned into industrialized country with a solid independent economy. The Korean people have done away with exploitation and suppression, poverty and misery, and are leading a creative and cultured life.

This reality of Korea is not only for the Korean people. It encourages greatly the Third World countries and is of historical importance.

The DPRK laid foundations for its industrialization in a short span of time of 14 years(1957-1970), though it took other countries 1 or 2 centuries to achieve it, and made rapid economic progress in about 30 years after the liberation.

This progress is thanks to the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung and it shows the great validity of an independent national economy built in the Democtatic People's Republic of Korea.

The demand of the people for food is fully satisfied with domestically made farm products in the DPRK.

Industrial Infrastructure Steadily Improved

The industrial structure of the DPRK is steadily perfected with the construction of new factories and workshops and the installation of modern equipment. 2,941 construction objects were finished last year in industrial domain.

Before liberation the industry of Korea suffered from serious colonial onesidedness and lopsidedness under the colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists. Korea's processing industry was much weaker than the mining industry and engineering industry was of no account. The heavy industry was partial to the production of raw materials and semi-finished goods and the light industry was also very backward.

President Kim Il Sung put forward the correct policy of founding the departmental structure of socialist industry and wisely directed the struggle for its implementation.

As a result, the industry has now developed into a modern independence industry which has all domains necessary to meet by itself domestic demands for means of production, such as machines and equipment, raw materials, fuel and power and all kinds of mass consumption goods.

The country which could hardly manufacture even simple farm tools before liberation has now an engineering industry which produces all kinds of heavy machines and equipment, precision machines and complete sets of equipment for outfitting factories, meeting 98 percent of domestic need of machines and equipment. The share of engineering industry in industrial production rose from 5.1 percent in 1946 to 33.7 percent in 1977.

In the structure of the ferrous metal industry in 1944, the year just before liberation, the output of steel was 30 and rolled steel 21.4 when the output of pig iron was taken as 100. The output of second processed metal goods was insignificant. Today, however, a rational equipoise has been achieved from the production of pig iron to that of steel, rolled steel and second processed metal goods.

A number of big thermal power plants have been built to liquidate the onesideness of the power industry which inclined only to hydro-power. The chemical industry is also equipped with inorganic and organic domains.

The light industry is well balanced in all inner structure including textile, food processing daily necessaries and shoe industries, etc.

During the Second Seven-Year Plan we will create more new industrial domains to perfect the departmental structure of industry and its inner structure and strengthen still further the independence and Juche-orientation of the economy.

Seoul Cooks Up New "Spy Rings"

As was already reported, last month the south Korean authorities consecutively cooked up new "spy ring cases." The fabrications were timed with the suspension of the resumed north-south talks as a result of Seoul's refusal to turn out to the fourth-round contact proposed by Pyongyang.

The whirlwind of the latest heavy-handed repression reminds us of a series of past sanguinary crackdowns—the "north Korean spy ring case," "campus spy ring case," 'People's Revolutionary Party case", and so on.

The fake-up of "spy ring case" is a stereotyped method to which the south Korean authorities have always resorted whenever they are thrown into a serious crisis.

Today, crises both political and economic are deepening in south Korea to an explosive point: a failure of "export-oriented high growth policy" which results in a runaway inflation and expanding trade deficit; oil price hike; and the setback of the ruling "Democratic Republican Party" in the last general election. Among others, demands for the earlier reunification of the divided country have been mounting higher ever than before among the south Korean people, since the north-south talks were resumed thanks to Pyongyang's sincere efforts.

In a desperate attempt to suppress popular complaints of Pak Jung Hi's policy conduct, this time, too, Seoul shamelessly has recourse to the ill-famed terror rule, while groundlessly branding the south Korean patriots as "spies."

The "Counter-Insurgency Command (CIC)"on Apr. 20 announced that they had exposed the so-called "10 member north Korean spy ring."

In this connection, seven persons were arrested and other three booked allegedly on charges of "espionage" and the "violation of the national security law." Among them are Lim Dong Gyu, 40, secretary-general of Koryo University's labour affairs research center in Seoul, and Chi Jong Gwan, 39, a Tokyo-based south Korean cameraman for the French Gamma Press and the British Camera Press.

It is said that the south Korean group has been engaged in reorganizing the Revolutionary Party for Reunification, an underground vanguard party in south Korea.

Chi Jong Gwan is a regular member of the Foreign Correspondents Club in Japan (FCCJ). His sudden arrest caused a great concern among his fellow foreign correspondents and the Korean community here. A strong protest was lodged by the FCCJ with the south Korean embassy here.

The case is the second of its kind in a chain of Seoul's renewed anti-communist row. The "spy ring case" followed the "Christian Academy case."

Earlier, on Apr. 16, the south Korean "Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA)" announced that it had arrested seven people allegedly on suspicion of working for a communist revolution in south Korea. The arrested include two women and professors. They were reportedly charged with "violating the anti-communist law."

The "KCIA" alleged that six of the arrested, all staff members of the Christian Academy, set up a "pro-Pyongyang spy ring" among themselves earlier this year.

The crackdown upon south Korean Christian activists surprise the world Christian community. Christian organizations here on Apr. 13 called for the immediate release of the arrested Christians, calling a news conference in Tokyo. They appealed the world Christianity to take a prompt action to protest the south Korean authorities.

The families of those arrested in connection with the "Christian Academy case" issued appeals on Mar. 23 and Apr. 13 respectively (See below). In the appeals, they strongly held that the case was cooked up by the authorities and the arrested Christians are innocent.

So brothers were arrested by the "CIC" in connection with the bogus "campus spy ring case" in 1971, when the Japan-born Koreans were studying in Seoul University. So Sung, right, was condemned to death on charges of violating the fascistic "anti-communist law" and "national security law." So Jung Sik, left, was sentenced to 15-year imprisonment on the same charges. The "CIC" tortured So Sung and burnt his face. Keloids still remain on his face.

Rodong Sinmun:

Nothing Can Be Obtained Through Anti-Communist Row

The south Korean authorities are these days harshly suppressing the south Korean people who call for the democratization of society and the country's reunification and kicking up an anti-communist row after announcing another "spyring case."

In this connection Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK), Apr. 22, carried a commentator's article headlined "Nothing Can Be Obtained through Suppression of People and Anti-Communist Row."

The article said:

It is reported that the south Korean authorities referred the chief of the general affairs section of the labour affairs institute of Koryo University and six others to the prosecution on charges of being "spies" and "violating the national security law."

Aged between 20 and 60, they pursued different professions as journalists, lecturers, businessmen and students. They waged a righteous struggle for the democratization of south Korean society and the peaceful reunification of the country.

They set up the circle guidance chair in the university, awakened the people through publications, expanded the organization of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification and organized student demonstrations, reports said.

It is entirely just that the south Korean people rose in struggle for the democratization of society and national reunification with national and class consciousness, unable to remain indifferent to the reality of south Korea where democracy is suppressed and the nation-splitting policy is enforced.

As history shows, where there are exploitation and oppression, dictatorship and despotism, there always come the resistance of the people and their revolutionary struggle. The struggle of the south Korean people against dictatorship and for democracy is a logical result of the reactionary and anti-popular military fascist rule of south Korea.

This notwithstanding, the south Korean rulers arrest and persecute those who turned out to the struggle for defending their legitimate rights, and try to inflict penalties upon them by invoking various fascist evil laws.

This is an outrageous challenge to democracy and justice and an open violation of human rights which can never be justified.

An unconditional and immediate end must be put to the suppression of human rights in south Korea.

What is surprising is that the south Korean authorities try to connect in a far-fetched way the south Korean people's struggle with us.

This is totally groundless and nonsensical.

The south Korean authorities pursue a sinister purpose in trying to connect with us an incident which has nothing to do with us and getting frantic with the anti-communist din.

They are going the length of breaking up the dialogue which had been arranged with much efforts, in an attempt to bring under control the situation which is developing against their will and are busy with instilling hostility against us and the consciousness of confrontation into the minds of the south Korean people.

The south Korean authorities describe the struggle of the people which took place in south Korea as one "dictated" by others. This is a premeditated intrigue designed to bring the dialogue to a rupture, shift the responsibility for it onto others, justify their splittist line and suppression of the people and divert elsewhere the attention of the people aspiring after national reunification.

At a time when the desire of compatriots at home and abroad and the world people for the peaceful solution of the reunification question is growing stronger as never before and a new road of dialogue for reunification is open, they rigged up the "spyring case" to connect it with us in a far-fetched way, kicking up the anti-communist racket. This is a challenge to the people desirous of dialogue and reunification and an unpardonable crime to fix the national split.

It is incompatible with the interests of the nation not to turn up at the dialogue which they had to attend, trump up this or that case behind the curtain to create distrust between the north and the south and lay a new obstacle. Nothing can be obtained through the suppression of the people and the anti-communist din.

If the south Korean authorities truly want to solve the reunification question through dialogue with us, they must not resort to a despicable intrigue, pursuing a foul political purpose, but appear at the dialogue with us whicd made a new start. This is the only road which accords with the demand of the time and the nation.

(KCNA)

Appeal of Families of Arrested in "Christian Academy Case"

Our sons, daughters, husbands, and brothers—who as staff members of Korean Christian Academy have committed themselves to the building of a free, equal, and more humane society—have been abducted from our sight by unidentified agents with no apparent reason whatsoever.

It has been almost two weeks since then, and absolutely no news has reached us, their family members, who are left with awesome worries.

In the morning of March 9, the secretary of the Women's Program, Ms. Han Myung-sook, was taken in. This marked the beginning of this incident. In the morning of March 13, Mr. Lee Woo-jae, Mr. Hwang Han-shik, and Mr. Chang Sung-hwan, all staff members of the Rural Program, were taken in after being told that they would be released within two to three hours. At about the same time, Mr. Kim Se-kyun and Ms. Shin In-hyung, both of the Industrial Program, were escorted away from their office by agents who drove up in a sedan. The only explanation given by the agents was that they were taking these five people as witnesses for the investigation of Han Myung-sook. However, the residences of each of these five people were searched immediately after their abductions.

On March 15 a close friend of these five, Prof. Chung Chang-yul of Hanyang University, and Prof. Kim Byung-tae of Kunkuk University, an important researcher in the area of rural problems, both had their homes searched and were taken by agents.

On March 18, Mr. Lee Dae-young, accountant of the Academy, was taken in the same manner.

This wave of arrests without charges continued. Mr. In Nak-hyung, a resource person for the Rural Program, was taken by agents on March 20, and Mr. Lee Gun-woo, a leader of the Catholic Farmers' Association, was taken on March 21. On March 22, three other important people were seized: Mr. Choi Soon-young, chairman of a branch union of the Traders' Union; Mr. Park Hyun-chae, an instructor at Choongnam University and a researcher at the Institute of National Economy; and Ms. Chang Hyun-ja, chairperson of the Bando Company branch union. In addition, Ms. Lee Chong-gak, former chairperson of the Dong-il Textile Company branch union, was taken on March 23 by unidentified agents.

Korean Christian Academy has promoted, with the backing of German churches, various action programs for freedom, equality, and humanization. The mass-abduction of these six staff members of Christian Academy along with others associated with the Academy's programs is an extreme insult to those who have committed themselves to the cause of workers and farmers by giving up on secular success and instead working to build a more humane and democratic society for all the people.

Who has the right to take and hold people prisoner without informing their families of anything?

We, the families of the abducted, hereby register our firm confidence in the fact that the work of the Christian Academy has been, and continues to be, based on the primary responsibility of carrying out Christian mission on this earth. Therefore, we appeal to the churches in Korea, and especially to the fellowship of the National Council of Churches of Korea, to become involved and do something about this awesome incident.

March 23, 1979

* * *

Korean Christian Academy has the task of educating groups of people for the purpose of building a democratic society with humanism, justice, and equality. The following staff members of the Academy's industrial, agricultural, and women's programs were taken by the KCIA on March 9 and March 13: Han Myung-sook, Lee Woo-jae, Shin In-ryung, Hwang Han-shik, Kim Dae-kyun, and Chang Sang-hwan. To this day we are not able to expect their safe return. On April 3 we finally received notification of their arrests from the KCIA and were informed that they have been transferred to Seoul Prison.

After these six staff members were taken, Prof. Chong Chang-yol of Hanyang University was also arrested and transferred to Seoul Prison. In addition, Yu Byong-muk, former professor at Chung An University; Yang Chong-kyu, board member of Korea Agricultural Modernization Research Institute; Im Tong-kyu, researcher at the Institute of Labor Problems; and Park Hung-chae, professor of economics, were taken by the KCIA. They disappeared already one month ago, and yet even their families do not know their whereabouts and are full of fear.

Under the government's Fourth Economic Development Plan, the rich are getting richer, but the many workers and farmers who are working with their sweat and blood do not even receive the salaries they are entitled to and are below the officially-designated minimum standard of living. In this money-centered economy, our husbands, sons, daughters, brothers, and sisters who want to live more humanly, who want a guaranteed livelihood, who want to work for a just society, and who gave up their positions and began to live a simple life together with the workers and farmers, have been arrested under the Anti-Communist Law. What does this mean?

In 1977 the KCIA weakened the Peace Market garment workers' union by closing down their labor education center. In February 1978 the KCIA crushed the Dong-Il Textile Company labor union by pouring human excrement over the workers and rendering powerless the Inchon Urban-Industrial Mission (UIM). This left only one institution, Christian Academy, which concerns itself with the education and conscientization of farmers and workers. The arrest of these six staff members means the complete paralysis of the life of the Academy. We cannot help but believe that the KCIA's main goal is to wipe out all democratic workers' and farmers' movements.

Among us family members there are four pitiful children who have lost their mother and were depending on their father for their living, and who are now being told that he is staying with farmers in the countryside, and are waiting, waiting for his return There are also older sisters who depend on medicine and accupuncture to make it through their daily work who are worrying about their brothers and sisters. There are aged mothers and little brothers and sisters who have lost the people they were depending on for their livelihood. There is a wife whose maid refused to stay with a "communist" family who gave her two daughters to relatives so as to be able to work for the release of her husband, even though her body is weak. There are also the wife and family of a man whose baby was born during his absence and to whom they want to show his new-born, but are not allowed to meet him. They say that the investigation of the Christian Academy has been completed, but why has the KCIA—without any reason—postponed their transfer to the prosecutor's office for an additional ten days, and why has it still not permitted the families to visit their loved ones?

The chief "evidence" that the six arrested staff members of Christian Academy are communists is their reading of "communist-related books." If this is so, then does this not mean that—because our people are living in complete seclusion, like behind an iron curtain—we know only our own small world?

All those people in countries like the U.S., Japan, West Germany, England, and France, who can freely buy, read, and discuss communist books—should they all be called communists? We cannot understand why the government is handling the Christian Academy incident with such a hard line, since it is promoting at the same time the north-south dialog in the midst of a mood of east-west detente and reconciliation of ideological antagonisms.

We ask the people in the world at all levels to strongly support the safe release of these six staff members and all the other arrested persons, so that they may become a courageous dynamic force in the democratic movement of our people to build a just society.

April 13, 1979

Symposium on Korean Reunification Held in Tokyo

A view of the Symposium on Korean Reunification sponsored by the Committee of Foreign Residents for the Reunification of Korea on Apr. 28 in Tokyo.

A Symposium on Korean Reunification was held in Tokyo on Apr. 28 at the Nippon-Kaiun Club, Tokyo under the sponsorship of the Committee of Foreign Residents for the Reunification of Korea.

The symposium was attended by more than 50 persons from some 15 countries, including the Japanese.

The theme of the symposium was divided into the following two sub-themes: "Detente and Reunification" and "Self-Determination and Human Rights."

Dr. John Welfield of Griffith University, Australia, temporarily resident Professor at Hitotsubashi University in Tokyo, made a long report on the first sub-theme "Detente and Reunification." In his report, Dr. Welfield detailed the significance of Korean reunification to peace and security in Northeast Asia, and the importance of the reunification to the Korean people. The Australian historian was followed by Professor Suzuki Jiro at Tokyo Metropolitan University.

On the second sub-theme "Self-Determination and Human Rights," critic Aochi Shin and Kamakura city assemblyman Wakabayashi Hiroshi made reports respectively.

After the reports, questions and short presentations were made from the floor.

The Symposium on Korean Reunification clearly showed that a movement for the solidarity with the Korean crusade for the independent and peaceful reunification of the divided country is widely spreading among foreign residents here as well as the Japanese.

The sponsors said that members of the Committee of Foreign Residents for the Reunification of Korea had met to consider what further steps should be taken to contribute to a solution of the problem of the divided peninsula.

Then, it was unanimously agreed to: continue their activities; hold a symposium where views could be exchanged; collect and disseminate information, historical, political, social on which to evaluate the issues involved.

They stressed:

"We have been somewhat encouraged by the resumption of dialogue between north and south. We want now to strengthen and encourage this step as far as it lies within our power, and the symposium was directed toward this end."

Overseas Koreans Urge Seoul to Abolish "Yusin System," Repressive Laws

The April 11 issue of "Minjok Sibo," a newspaper of Koreans in Japan under the influence of the "ROK residents association in Japan," carried a statement titled "Let Us Lead the Spirit of the March First Uprising to Unification" which was made public on March 1 jointly by Kim Jae Jun, chairman of the "North American Union of the Movement for Democracy," Rim Chang Yong, senior chairman of the "Union of Overseas South Koreans for Democracy, Nation and Unification," and Choe Dok Sin, chairman of the "Paedal Soldiers Society."

The statement noted that the March First Popular Uprising was a nationwide uprising, resistance waged for a long period to liberate the nation by smashing Japanese imperialism and driving it out of our country.

Pointing to the "immediate problem of the nation," the statement said as follows:

1. The south Korean authorities must immediately release all the patriotic and democratic political prisoners including those involved in the publication of the "declaration for democracy and national salvation" and totally and completely abolish the socalled anti-democratic, anti-national "*yusin* system."

2. The whole nation should rise to establish independence by rejecting the tyranny of Japanese and other foreign capital and repulsing the neo-colonialist clutches in various spheres, political, economic, military and cultural.

3. In order to lead the already started north-south contact along the road of peaceful and independent unification, the authorities and people of all circles should eliminate and discontinue all factors, direct and indirect, and acts which may cause national split or war and representatives of all circles should be left to attend a meeting to be expanded in the future so that the general will of the masses of the people, the master of national unification, may be reflected.

4. We masses of people should renew our understanding of the history of the March First Movement, setting ourselves the goal of sovereignty, independence and unified independence, and extensively conduct various activities contributing to the reconciliation and unity of the whole nation, watching those in power so that they may not monopolize discourse on unification or use it for prolonging their "power."

The "Paedal Soldiers Society", an organization against fascism and for democracy, was inaugurated on Mar. 3 at a gathering held in Washington by south Korean residents in the U.S.

The inaugural meeting adopted the programme and statute of the "Paedal Soldiers Society" and elected Choe Dok Sin (ex-foreign minister of the south Korean puppet government) chairman of the society and Kim Jae Jun (former honorary president of "Hanguk Theological College"), Rim Chang Yong (former south Korean puppet ambassador to the UN) and Choe Hong Hui (former puppet army major general) its advisors. The organization published the initial number of its organ "Paedal Sinbo."

In the programme the "society" said "We reject dictatorship and struggle for its overthrow and devote ourselves to unifying the country divided by the outside forces on the strength of the nation and in a peaceful way."

In the programme it also stressed that "We reject all prejudices in individual ideas, religion, education, position, property, etc. for the great unity of the nation and our struggle and sacrifice ourselves to achieve reconciliation and the aim of the programme."

Shown here are sorrowful women grieving, in front of a Seoul prison, over the hanged husbands, allegedly members of the phony "People's Revolutionary Party." The south Korean authorities executed them in 1975, without prior notice to families, right after the illegal death sentence was confirmed. The "PRP" members were groundlessly branded as "spies." After the execution, their corpses were directly delivered to cemetery from the gallows. The wives were not allowed to see their husbands even after the death.

Union of Overseas S. Koreans

Rim Chang Yong, senior chairman of the "Union of Overseas South Koreans for Democracy, Nation and Unification," a united organisation of overseas compatriots of south Korean origin, recently issued a talk supporting the statement of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland for promoting the independent and peaceful reunification of the country with renewed efforts, according to "Haeoe Hanminbo," a newspaper of compatriots in the United States.

Expressing sympathy for the four-point proposals contained in the statement of the Central Committee of the DFRF, he said:

In the belief that, even if there are some differences in the procedural matter of the dialogue, they may be reconciled, given the fervent backing of the whole nation, I pledge myself to actively cooperate in the work for its success.

To achieve national reunification independently and peacefully, transcending idea and ideology, is the way of freeing the country from the international political charlatans who espouse the jungle law.

I appeal to the patriotic compatriots who call for national self-determination to rise up as one man and cooperate in the efforts for a success of the north-south dialogue.

In a nutshell, he said, it is clear that the person in authority in south Korea challenged the north in deeds, while calling for unification in words.

Stressing repeatedly that "a democratic system must be established in the south, if an early unification is to be achieved,", he urged the south Korean authorities to promptly repeal the "*yusin* system," "emergency decrees," "anti-communist law," etc. and unconditionally release all the political prisoners and guarantee the freedom of speech and assembly to the entire people.

Korea Lovely Land

Moran-bong Hill of Pyongyang

In the heart of Pyongyang lies a thickly wooded hill which is bedecked with various beautiful flowers in spring, summer and autumn.

From ancient times the hill has been called Moran-bong because it looks just like a blooming peony flower.

Its eastern side forms a sharp-cut cliff which the Taedong River skirts. In the middle of the flow floats an islet called Rungna-do.

The hill is like a picture of a master. So the Korean people have called it also Kumsu Hill (beautiful hill) from old times, saying that they see the beauty of the lovely land in it.

There are Kambuk Hill in the north and Mansu-dae Hill and Changgwang Hill in the west, which well suit the make-up of Pyongyang.

The Youth Park at the foot of Moran-bong Hill

It preserves historic remains including ancient pavilions, which show the 1,500-odd years' history of Pyongyang. At the highest place stands the Choesung-dae Pavilion, and the Ulmil-dae Pavilion at a place commanding a sweeping view of Pyongyang.

The Ulmil-dae Pavilion affords an unobstructed extensive prospect in all directions, so it was also called "Saho-jong Pavilion."

What catch your eye once you stand at the pavilion are the bronze statue of the great leader President Kim Il Sung respectfully erected on Mansu-dae Hill, the two large groups of figures sculptured in relief around the red banners bearing his portraits, which represent the Korean people's struggle, and the magnificent Korean Revolution Museum standing behind them. On the hill there stands also the Chollima Statue.

The Ulmil-dae Pavilion

You can see clearly east Pyongyang with modern multistoreyed apartment houses filling up the vast level, the Rungra-do recreation ground and the Okryu-gyo and Taedong-gyo bridges over the Taedong River.

There are the Okryu-gwan restaurant whose roof looks like wild geese sitting on a fantastic rock, such historic remains as the Ryongwang-jong Pavilion and the Taedongmun Gate, and the Grand Theater along the river.

You can see also graceful modern streets of Pyongyang and the tall buildings of Kim Il Sung University.

The scenic Moran-bong Hill has many stories about the brave struggle of the resourceful people against foreign invaders.

Even today there are in the hill the ruins of the old walls built by the Koguryo people to defend Pyongyang and many other historic remains showing the Korean people's struggles against foreign aggressors.

Among them are the Puksong (northern fort) by which the Korean people beat back Japanese intruders in 1592, and many other forts and lookouts.

These historic remains not only narrate the history of the Korean ancestors who defeated the foreign invaders by bravely fighting in defiance of ordeals but also show clearly there unique architecture and sculpture, add to the beauty of the hill.

The hillscape changes every season.

The snow-covered hill in winter is attractive indeed, but the hill in the blossom seasons is far more enchanting.

It wears different garbs and various flowers bloom according to seasons. More than 20 species of conifers including pine, pinenut, trefoiled pine and juniper, together with over 70 species of broad-leaved trees including linden and poplar, grow well in the hill.

The hill is fragrant with lovely flowering shrubs, such as azalea, syringa and peony, and also shrouded in pear, peach and apple in full blossom.

Colourful birds come to the hill to breed in their season, over 70 species in all, of which black-naped oriole, migratory grosbeak and bull-headed shrike are summer visitants, hawfinch and pallas rose-finch are winter visitants, woodpecker, jay and the snipe tribe are autumn visitants, and meadow bunting is a resident.

As you have seen above, for its fine commanding view and scenic beauty and merry chirps of birds and balmy flowers, the hill is an ideal place for the cultural recreation of the working people.

Before liberation it was used as a pleasure ground for the moneyed people and men of power.

But, President Kim Il Sung, who spares nothing for the people's good rest and health, has visited this hill in person scores of times since liberation and cared to well arrange it as a hill for the people, a fine cultural recreation ground for them.

Even in the hard days of the anti-Japanese armed struggle, he would never forget the Moran-bong Hill of Pyongyang, told his men about its beauty like a legend and imbued them with ardent patriotism, calling upon them to crush the Japanese imperialists and liberate their country.

The hill has now turned into a pleasure ground for the people with modern cultural recreation facilities.

On the hill stands the modern Moran-bong Theatre. At its foot there are the Children's Park with various play facilities, the Youth Park, the 20,000-seated Youth Open-air Theatre and the Botanical Exhibition.

There are also many ponds, large or small, in which various kinds of fish swim and jump, amusing the beholders. It has a miniature zoo and many paved paths for promenaders.

The Kwanpung-jong and other pavilions have been newly erected here and there in its dense woods. The new Moran and Chongryu falls are gushing down precipices, throwing silvery sprays all around. At the other foot of the hill there is the Moranbong Stadium.

The hill loved by people, boasting of the Korean history and its scenic beauty, is always alive with people enjoying cultural recreation.

Many foreigners also come to see it.

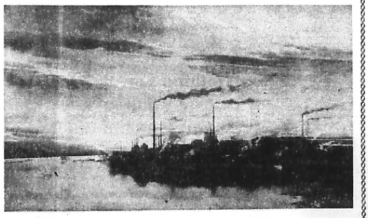
The Korean people love the picturesque hill soaring in the heart of the capital, Pyongyang, which adds to its beauty.

Spring has come to Moran-bong Hill.

Korean Painting

"Kangson in the Twilight"

(By Chong Yong Man, 1973)



This picture depicts the Kangson Steel Works in the twilight. The steel works is a leader of the steel industry in the DPRK as it is located near its capital of Pyongyang. The steel mill is the birthplace of the world-famous Chollima (legendary winged horse) movement which led the country to become a powerful Juche-motivated industrial state.

The heroic image of Kangson workers is effectively compressed into this picture of smoking stacks, imposing factories, and the glow of sunset reflected on their windowpanes. The beautifully-painted evening twilight symbolizes the wholehearted dedication of the Korean people to their fatherland.

Hunminjongum

Hunminjongum is the old name of the Korean alphabet.

The aphabet was instituted by the Korean ancestors in 1444.

It is a phonetic alphabet and belongs to the most developed alphabets which can express any sound of syllable. At the beginning it was composed of 28 characters. Later four characters went out of use due to a change in the Korean phonetic system. Today it has 40 consonants and vowels.

The alphabet has advantages. It enables us to fully express the Korean language rich in sounds and pronounce almost freely the words of any foreign languages of the East and West. It is easier to learn than any foreign alphabets.

Visit to Monumental Edifice in Korea (4)

Pyongyang Grand Theater

The Pyongyang Grand Theater stands in the beautiful park area of Pyongyang. Facing the theater, there is the Taedong River to the east, the Children's Park to the west and big roads and some small parks to the north. It attracts large numbers of people not only with the opera performances but also with the scenic surroundings.

In the 1960s, the theater drew people with such operas as "Under the Bright Sun", "Daughter of a Guerrilla," and now many people visit there for opera performances such as "Sea of Blood," "Tell, The Forest!" "Song of Mt. Kumgang" and "Flower Girl." The Pyongyang Grand Theater is used by musicians for their performances and once a year an art festival of all workers and farmers is held there. The theater often shows children's song and dance performances, too

The Pyongyang Grand Theater is a top-level theater in architecture as well as in its interior furnishings and facilities.

The 12- roofed theater looks like a flock of flying birds. When you step into the front hall through the 12 entasis pillars lining the entrance, you will find a mirror-like, shining marble floor. A photo gallery and sales stands are in the front hall, and on the second floor are a museum of the theater's history and a large restaurant.

Visitors can command a full view of the city which spreads along the Taedong River from the corridors on the first and the second floor. After enjoying a beautiful view of the city, people can rest in a comfortable wide rest room on the third floor.

The main stage of the theater is equipped with an elevator and a sliding floor, and more than 1,300 lights for the stage can be put on and off at a moment. At the back of the stage are some hundreds of rooms such as toilet rooms for actors and actresses, rooms for them ready for stage performances, individual rehearsal rooms, etc. Besides, the theater has an opera rehearsal stage, 21 meter wide and 19.8 meter deep, a dance training room which is the same in size as the opera rehearsal stage and a large integrated training room with 600 seats.

News Dispatch From Pyongyang

Apr. 10

* Pong Chol Man, new ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the DPRK to the Kingdom of Thailand, presented his credentials to King of Thailand Bhumibol Adulyadej.

Apr. 17

* Fidel Castro, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and President of the Council of State and President of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, met Li In Chun, ambassador of the DPRK to Cuba.

Apr. 18

* A 1979-1980 cultural exchange plan for implementing the cultural agreement between the governments of the DPRK and the Syrian Arab Republic was signed in Damascus.

Apr. 19

* Noor Mohammad Taraki, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, met Kim Ryo Gon, ambassador of the DPRK to that country.

* A delegation of the Korean Central News Agency headed by Li Nam Gyu left Pyongyang for a visit to Czechoslovakia. A delegation of guiding personnel of the Korean Juvenile Corps also lefy Pyongyang to attend the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Czechoslovak Children's Organisation and a conference of guiding personnel of children's organisations of socialist countries.

Apr. 21

* A delegation of the League of Socialist Working Youth of the DPRK headed by Kim Chang Ryong left Pyongyang to attend celebrations of the first anniversary of the victory of the April revolution in Afghanistan.

* A delegation of the General Federation of Industrial Technology of Korea headed by Mun Hui Un left Pyongyang for Poland.

* Octavio Vasquez Velasquez, member of the House of Representatives of Colombia, arrived in Pyongyang.

Apr. 24

* His Excellency Shehu Musa Yar Adua, member of the Supreme Military Council of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and Chief of Staff of the Nigerian Supreme Headquaters, and his entourage arrived in Pyongyang by special plane for an official visit to the DPRK at the invitation of the Government of the DPRK.

(KCNA)

World Bulletin

* A special meeting of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia was held in Belgrade on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Yugoslav Communist Party and Josip Broz Tito made a speech at the meeting.

* A celebration of the 109th anniversary of the birth of Lenin was held in Kremlin, Moscow, on April 20. Ivan Kapitonov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, made a report at the celebration.

* The Jamaican Prime Minister in his recent talk given to a magazine emphasized that the anti-imperialist struggle is the principal task of the non-aligned movement.

* A meeting of the Youth Organisation of Guinea-Bissau was held in Bissau. At the meeting the principal commissioner of the Council of Commissioners of State of Guinea-Bissau called upon the youth to dedicate all their efforts to the building of a new society for the welfare of the entire people.

* The foreign minister of Maldives in his talk with a journalist said that Maldives demands the dismantling of the U.S. military base in Diego Garcia Island and calls for the conversion of the Indian Ocean into a peace zone.

* The coodinating committee of the non-aligned countries made public a statement denouncing the aggressive acts of the Rhodesian racists.

* The African countries agreed to strengthen cooperation in the domain of railways at the meeting of the material committee of the Union of African Railways held in Cameroon.

* The Namibian workers hired at a gold mine in Oranyemund run by south African racists called a strike against unbearable working and living conditions.

Brief Korean History (11)

Strengthened Feudal System in Silla, Palhae

Following a protracted war, the feudal system of Silla and Palhae was further strengthened as a result of increased production activities.

Thanks to the unremitting efforts of the working people, vast tracts of land were reclaimed as arable land, and reservoirs were built. Large metal bells of Hwangryong and Pongdok temples, each weighing 120,000 *kun* or 72 tons, show the high standard of metal working in that period.

In accordance with the development of agriculture and manufacturing, commerce prospered, and big markets were opened in the capital city, Kyongju, five towns and nine provinces. Silla traded with Palhae, Tang and Japan. Thanks to Silla's high levels of shipbuilding techniques, Silla merchants played a key role in East Asian trade. In many port towns and cities of Tang were set up residential quarters of Silla merchants called "Silla Bang." Silk and hemp, gold and silver articles, various articles of industrial art, *insam* (ginseng) and other medicinal roots were shipped to foreign countries.

Bell of Pongdok Temple

In the 9th century a naval base and a trade base were built in Chonghaejin, or what we call today Wando in South Cholla Province. There were more than 10,000 troops and hundreds of warships and merchant vessels there. In these days, it had command of the West Sea and the South Sea and it had monopolistic controls on trade with Tang and Japan.

In order to strengthen the class foundation of the feudal stage, the land gained in the war of annexation was distributed among officials of noble birth as *sajon* (individually-owned land) and *sikup* (fief). In 687 a system was established whereby land was given out according to official ranks. In 722, the state introduced a system whereby a definite portion of land was distributed to able-bodied peasants who were obligated to do military service or corvée. The aim was to fetter peasants to land and allow the state to secure a direct source of exploitation. The country was divided into nine provinces or *chu*, each of which was sub-divided into *kun* and *hyon*. There were more than 400 *kun* and *hyon* in those days. Sub-capitals were set up at Kimhae, Chungju, Wonju, Namwon and Chongju.

In Palhae, agriculture, manufacture and commerce rapidly developed between the 8th and the 9th century. Palhae came to be called "Haedong Songguk" (flourishing empire) in the East by the neighbouring countries.

Endowed with vast fertile plains, the inhabitants were mainly peasants. They were also engaged in stock-breeding, hunting and fishing. The development of craft was noteworthy. Fur goods of high quality, gold and silver articles and pots were special products of Palhae. Many of them were exported. Brownish porcelains used as trays which was exported to Tang in 831 had a capacity of 0.5 *som* (one *som* equals 4.9629 bushels) but its weight was as light as fur.

The people of Palhae were made up of Koguryo people and Malgal tribe's men who had lived as natives in the territory of Koguryo from the outset. Foremost among the top circles of the ruling hierarchy were people of Koguryo origin.

The central administrative apparatus consisted of three ministries, the highest government organs, whose function was to draft the king's orders, issue them, extend guidance in their implementation and provide advice to the king; and six departments as the executive organs. The local administration was divided into 5 *kyong* (districts), 15 *pu* (sub-districts) and 62 *chu* (counties). (To be continued)

Housing Shortage in South Korea

In south Korea today the overwhelming majority of the working people including the workers and peasants live in misery without shelter.

Even the extremely curtailed figures released by south Korean publications disclose that nearly 15 million people of 2,947,000 families are left without roofs over their heads.

The house famine is more serious in densely-populated cities.

Housing shortage is 54.3 per cent in Seoul, 45 per cent in Ulsan, 53.4 per cent in Taegu and 49.4 per cent in Pohang, and in Songnam city over 200,000 of 300,000 or more population are homeless.

Even those houses where people live hardly deserve their name. They are mostly matchbox houses or dugouts which cannot keep off the rain and wind.

In south Korean cities such houses huddle together on hillsides, hilltops, riversides, river banks or under bridges. Some of them have no door and straw mats are used as such.

In Seoul over 135,000 families live in such patchworks of boards which are a mere apology for house and no better than outdoors.

About this a south Korean publication wrote:

"I went into one of them through the strawmat door. It was a dugout. It may be said a house as it serves as living quarters. But, in reality it was like a cave. It was dug in a hillside and roofed with a few galvanized iron sheets. The sky was seen through the roof and it was so low that I could not stand erect and it was steeped in decay and moisture."

Most of working people cannot afford even such dugouts and live in rented rooms, in tents pitched under bridges or outdoors.

It is common in south Korea today that two or three families share a house of one room of two or three *pyong* (One *pyong* approximates 3.3 square meters)

They cannot rent separate houses. Most of them rent poorly-heated rooms or not heated rooms with no kitchens attached to houses.

Working people cannot rent even such houses and rooms because their rent is very high and it is on the rise.

In Seoul the rent for a room vacant of the kitchen, no better than the matchbox house, is 1.2 to 1.5 million *won* (One dollar equals 484 won). It is beyond imagination in south Korea for the working people to build their own houses.

In this connection a south Korean radio aired:

"It is out of question for the poor to build their houses as house sites and building materials cost them very much.

"The price of house lot has skyrocketed for years. It was 40,000 to 50,000 *won* per *pyong* last year, but it is 100,000 *won* this year. If the prices of building materials are added, a house costs 300,000 to 400,000 won per *pyong*. house of 20 *pyong* needs more than 10 million *won*."

A south Korean working man in city must work full 60 years to earn the money to build a one-roomed house.

This means that he cannot have a room for his life.

Despite such a serious housing situation, the Pak Jung Hi junta far from trying to settle the housing problem, ruthlessly pull down even matchbox houses by bulldozers under the pretext of "unlicensed houses" or "land readjustment."

When more than a half of the urban population are left without shelter, a handful of the privileged lead a corrupt life in their "luxury houses" worth over 10,000 million *won*, with even "luxury tombs" prepared for themselves.

The rich get richer and the poor poorer in south Korea. This is an inevitable outcome of the reactionary and anti-popular policy of the Pak Jung Hi junta. If the south Korean people are to extricate themselves from all their misfortunes and sufferings and lead a free, happy life as soon as possible, a new society, whose masters are the working people, must be built.

There are in south Korea many people who have not even huts like these.

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